

Basketball tournament set for May UTA

By Capt. Patrick Baker

179th Civil Engineering Squadron

Congratulations to the APS (A) & CE (A) teams for a perfect regular season. Both teams breezed through the regular season to finish with 5-0 records. The APS (A) team earned the top spot in the upcoming tournament (tiebreaker – overall points). The top two teams earned a first round playoff bye.

Comm squadron played in one of the most exciting games of the year during the April UTA. The Comm team made a game winning shot with one second left to secure the victory. Their victory prevented the AGS squadron from making the post-season tournament.

The top six teams qualified for the playoffs. The first round games will be

as follows: #3 CE (B) vs. #6 Maint/Wing and #4 Clinic (B) vs. Comm sq. We are attempting to contract for qualified officials for the tournament. The Commander's Cup Trophy points are awarded based on the tournament results.

Thanks to APS (B), Clinic (A), AGS, MPF for playing hard and making the regular season fun. The AGS team earned two points toward the Commander's Cup Trophy and the MPF team earned one point. The winner of the basketball tournament receives 10 points.

The championship basketball game begins at 8pm.

Tournament Schedule

11 am Clinic vs. Comm
Noon CE (B) vs. Maint/Wing
5:30 pm APS (A) vs. Clinic/Comm winner
6:30 pm CE (A) vs. CE (B)/Maint-Wing winner
8 pm Championship Game

The Co-ed Softball season will be starting in May. Please contact your local squadron sports rep to sign up. We would like to see everyone participate. Good luck to all the teams.

National environmental awards honor 179th program and employee

By 1st Lt. Shannon Scherer

179th Public Affairs Office

The 179th Airlift Wing is no stranger to winning awards and 2001 proved no different for a unit shop that has been recognized on a national level for years.

The unit's environmental section received the Air National Guard Recycling Award for 2001, but it was also recognized as having the top State Environmental Employee. Krista S. Keplinger joined the 179th as a state employee in 1998 and is working hard as part of the environmental team to ensure the base is in compliance and improving its processes everyday.

"I still have trouble believing I won," said Keplinger. "There are so many state environmental specialists in the ANG doing extraordinary things that I really consider myself as the lucky



From left to right: Col Stephens, Krista Keplinger, Capt. Cramer and Col Waldron

person who got singled out this year."

Keplinger earned her BS in Environmental Health from Ohio University and is currently pursuing her master's degree in environmental management.

Capt. Troy Cramer, base environmental manager, said "Kris takes a great deal of pride and enthusiasm toward making her programs one of the best in the ANG and this award is reflective of her hard work."

Kramer and Keplinger noted that receiving these type of awards was only possible through the combined efforts of everyone on base.

"It's a testament to the unending support I receive from the amazing people I get to work with everyday," Keplinger said. "Without their help I would have never been able to accomplish everything I have. Even though the award was given to me, I see it as an award for the entire unit."